

Back-to-soil Movement for Aliens

State Labor Commissioner Olson of the state of Washington answers:

State Labor Commissioner Olson of the state of Washington answers the claim of immigration restriction opponents who are blind to the effect of present immigration and who lightly announce that "the immigrant should be placed on the land."

at Seattle, Wash., wrote Secretary of State Howell relative to "conditions attractive to foreign immigration" into that state. The letter was answered

by Labor Commissioner Olson, who forwarded a copy to A. F. of L. Secretary Frank Morrison, who used it in his argument in favor of restriction before the house committee on immigration, January 21, 1916.

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Mr. Olson's letter to the Hon. Jan Kool follows:

July 21, 1915.

Hon. Jan Kool,
Acting Vice Consul, the Netherlands,
American Bank Building, Seattle,
Wash.

SIR: Pursuant to a request made by that department by Hon. T. M. Howell, secretary of state, to furnish you with information as to the number of immigrants attractive to foreign immigration into this country, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, and to enclose herewith a copy of the ninth biennial report of this bureau, which contains the statistics of immigration for the past five years. I enclose also a brief review of the conditions relating to the immigration of European immigrants, which has resolved a serious and impending problem, and until our lands are opened to the people at large, it is probable that will permit settlement of the problem. The number of immigrants of unemployment is apt to increase from year to year.

The land question lies at the heart of our labor problem, and the possibility of a family of limited means successfully settling on the land is a problem which has almost vanished, and in consequence our cities are being glutted with indus-

Being advised through your letter of

ingrity to the secret of a state that this information is desired for use in a quarterly report made to your government. It is assumed that this information in this report will be disseminated among your people in the Netherlands, permit me to accute some of the statements made in this report. The first statement, labor, above referred to, that the conditions in this state are not encouraging to the foreign immigrant who, with limited capital, is unable to here establish himself in an industrial or agricultural level. Little, if any, government land is now available to new settlers unless it be in regions so remote from the markets that success is rarely accomplished. While there are here millions of acres of highly productive land, much of which is lying in idleness, this land is being held by speculators who are unwilling to sell it at fabulous prices—at prices so high that the foreign immigrant cannot put it beyond the reach of the person of moderate means.

For many years past there has been a

surplus of labor in our manufacturing industries, and especially is this true of the textile labor. This condition has naturally attracted the attention of the United States, and it is not uncommon to find great groups of foreigners working on railroad construction in the United States, and living there as little and even less than \$1.00 per day and paying from 30 cents to 40 cents per day for board, and these conditions are being intensified. It is a very further fact that but little steady employment is offered and the workmen are

portion of the year looking for work.

COMPULSORY SERVICE MUST GO

By PRESIDENT GOMPERS,
In American Federationist.

The splendid fight that workers in other lands could not be compelled to make and

countries are making against proposals for compulsion has won the admiration

Nevertheless these 23 who resigned—just that, nothing more—were charged with criminal conspiracy to delay the trials.

Government institutions have grown in proportion to the development of the nation that "enlistment" obtains for civil service employees—that they are sub-

country, increases in population and the increasing functions that the state has assumed. Increases in the numbers of civil service employees have been proportional.

Formerly civil service positions were part of the so-called spoils system. The civil service system was adopted which

in theory, was based upon merit and afforded protection to efficient work-

It is general information that the civil service is subject to "influence," that it functions in a mysterious way to advance the interests of some and leaves others helpless against the purpose of a great machine.

theorists of the dignity of public servants and of the greater respect that will ob-

tain for government employees rather than for the private employment. These advocates of public employees' ownership and operation of the government service include Public servants, city service employees, police officers, firemen, transit carriers, or "common laborers."

Civil service employees have been denied the right of free speech and free press. They have been denied the right to petition for redress of grievances, and they have been denied the right to participate in the political life of their community. They have been denied the right to have their own unions, and they have been denied the right to quit work.

Recently 25 post office clerks and carriers in New York City went on strike. They committed no violence; they did not obstruct the mails; they made no effort to interfere with the mail. They were simply exercising their right to their keys, and left the postal service. They were arrested and charged with charges against the postmaster of New York City for "obstructing the mails" and the "speeding-up" of the mail. They felt that they took longer was to three days.

DANGERS IN INDUSTRY SHOWN

The loss to the nation through accidents, considered in the light of recent statistics, truly is appalling. The Bureau of Census has estimated that the cost of accidents to the nation is \$1,000,000,000 a year. This is a staggering figure. It is the cost of the lives and limbs of our people. It is the cost of the property and the cost of the business of the nation. It is the cost of the lives and limbs of our people. It is the cost of the property and the cost of the business of the nation. It is the cost of the lives and limbs of our people. It is the cost of the property and the cost of the business of the nation.

ment of labor in March of last year con-

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the same time was estimated at about 700,000.

The same ratio would give us a total of 1,000 deaths a year from the 100,000 men aggregating \$2,000,000, and we must not forget that the 100,000 men who are not killed are not the 100,000 men that this is not what has happened in the past.

In 1914 year, 10,000 accidents were reported to the industrial commission for the purpose of determining the causes of the accidents about 800 were fatal. For the purpose of determining the causes of the disabilities ranging from the loss of one limb to the loss of the whole body, the commission has been able to determine on both sides.

The insurance companies, however, declare that in this country out of every 100,000 men who are employed in the manufacturing industry every year, one death out of every ten thousand is caused by accident. In the United States there are two accidental deaths to every 100,000 men who are employed in the United States from other than the manufacturing industry. In the United States there are two accidental deaths to every 100,000 men who are employed in the United States from other than the manufacturing industry. In the United States there are two accidental deaths to every 100,000 men who are employed in the United States from other than the manufacturing industry.

ment that will arouse the public to these fight.

There need be no secrets between employers and their employees when we meet on the level, respecting each others' rights, and thus may be averted the certainty of strife that accompanies espionage.—Ex.

The union label is your label, and when you ignore it you ignore your

The union label is your friend when you ignore it you are your enemy.

If You Would Save Yourself and Future Generations Write Your Congressman and Senators to Vote for the Passage of the 'Burnett Immigration Restriction Bill. Do It Now. Ask Your Friends to Do Likewise.